DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 283 453 HE 020 432

AUTHOR	Schietinger, E. F.
TITLE	Degrees Awarded in the Nation and the SREB States.
INSTITUTION	Southern Regional Education Board, Atlanta, Ga.
PUB DATE	86
NOTE	20p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Southern Regional Education Board, 592 Tenth Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318-5790 ($4.50).
PUB TYPE	Statistical Data (110) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Associate Degrees; Bachelors Degrees; Comparative Analysis; *Degrees (Academic); Doctoral Degrees; *Females; Geographic Regions; *Graduate Study; Higher Education; *Majors (Students); Masters Degrees; National Surveys; Professional Education; Trend Analysis; *Undergraduate Study
IDENTIFIERS	United States; *United States (South)

ABSTRACT

Trends in degrees awarded nationwide and in the South are reported, with attention to degrees awarded by level, field, and sex, as well as a comparison for the nation and the South. In addition to narrative explanations, data are provided on: degrees awarded from 1969-1970 to 1982-1983 at the doctoral, master's, bachelor's, and first-professional levels; degrees awarded by state, 1982-1983, and percent change 1978-1979 to 1982-1983; degrees awarded at each level by field using both the Higher Educational General Information System classification and the Classification of Instructional Program classification; degrees awarded by level for each state in the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB); and the percent of degrees (by level and field) awarded to females for SREB states, 1978-1979 and 1982-1983. Findings include the following: fields in which increases occurred at all levels over a four-year period were computer and information sciences, communications, engineering, business and management, and the health professions; fields in which declines were registered at all levels were library and archival sciences, multi/interdisciplinary studies, public affairs, education, foreign languages, and social sciences. (SW)

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DEGREES AWARDED IN THE NATION AND THE SREB STATES

Southern Regional Education Board 1986

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Degrees Awarded in the Nation and the SREB States

E. F. Schietinger

Southern Regional Education Board
592 Tenth Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-5790

1986

$4.50

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Introduction

Colleges and universities are increasingly being called upon to demonstrate their educational impact in terms of student outcomes. New ways of doing this are being developed, but numbers and types of academic degrees awarded still remain one of the most tangible indicators of educational accomplishment by institutions. For better or for worse, the "credential" of the academic degree continues to be one of the key factors in the job market today.

This SREB report on degrees awarded chronicles the continuing progress of women in the vast majority of educational and career preparation fields. In recent years, the proportion of degrees that are awarded to women has increased significantly at all degree levels except for the master's level, where women already receive a majority of the degrees. That degree is so heavily weighted by the field of education (where three out of four degrees go to women) that women, as a proportion of total master's degrees, have actually declined slightly.

Female representation has advanced most rapidly in law, medicine, veterinary medicine, and other first professional fields. At all degree levels the rate of advance has slowed since the great surge of higher educational enrollment by women in the early Seventies.

One major problem in degree production during the Seventies was the drop in engineering doctorates--academic personnel needed to bolster teaching requirements in the region's and nation's colleges of engineering. Indications are that this had largely been corrected by 1982-83. A counterpart to the shortage in engineering doctorates was the fact that the field of mathematics--required for providing the continued flow of qualified candidates for advanced degrees in engineering--was a declining field at the baccalaureate level. This also meant fewer mathematics teachers were being prepared for secondary schools. That situation has also improved significantly, thanks to deliberate state initiatives to encourage mathematics education.

Those who have been troubled by the continuing retreat of the liberal arts and the attendant decline in number of degrees awarded in the humanities and the social sciences will find little solace in the current statistics. The pendulum has not yet begun to swing away from the attraction which the demands of high technology and the widespread motivation toward vocationalism continue to exert.

The Southern region is truly becoming more like the nation in educational terms; where only nine percent of the nation's Ph.D.s were awarded in these states in 1950, they now account for some 23 percent. Perhaps it is just as significant that the nation's balance between advanced degrees and undergraduate degrees has actually leveled off to match regional proportions in recent years. The region's benefit in starting from farther back appears to have been avoidance, at least partially, of the nation's over-expansion and consequent imbalance in advanced degree production which was first noted in the mid-Sixties.

Organization of the Data

Degrees Awarded in the Nation and the SREB States (1982-83) is the first SREB report on degrees awarded since adoption of the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) taxonomy by the Center for Educational Statistics in the U.S. Department of Education. To facilitate comparisons with information from previous years, those text tables reporting degrees by field have been organized to show field titles under both the old and the new systems of classification. Although the 1982-83 survey of degrees awarded provided for racial/ethnic data, the resulting tabulations were judged to be not sufficiently complete for release by the Center for Educational Statistics and are not included in this report.

The present report consists of a brief discussion supported by Tables A through J. Data for the state of Oklahoma, which has been part of the SREB compact since 1985, are included where individual states are listed (Table F) but are not incorporated within "SREB-state" regional counts in the other text tables.

Tables A through J are based on two tables which are available from SREB: Table 1, "Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral and First Professional Degrees, Distribution by Sex, Public and Private Institutions, 1982-83" (for the United States, the SREB region, and individual SREB states, reported by 4-digit CIP field codes) and Table 2, "Associate Degrees and Other Formal Awards of Less than 4 Years, Distribution by Length of Curriculum, Sex, Public and Private Institutions, 1982-83" (for the United States and the SREB region but not for the individual states). These two tables are available from SREB at $20 per set.

Degrees by Level

Doctoral Degrees: Doctoral production in the United States peaked in 1972-73 at some 35,000 degrees and has continued at a slightly lower plateau ever since (Table A). SREB-state production peaked seven years later, in 1979-80, which is also the year in which SREB-states' doctorates as a percentage of United States doctorates reached their highest point--23.4 percent, up from 8.5 percent in 1949-50 when SREB began monitoring higher educational developments in the South.

By the close of the Sixties there was a growing awareness that the expansion of graduate education had outdistanced the demand for doctorates in many fields. In 1970 doctoral degrees accounted for 2.8 percent of all academic degrees. That was to be the high water mark for doctoral degrees. At that point doctoral production in the SREB states had risen to 2.2 percent of all degrees. The subsequent slowdown in doctoral degrees nationally was apparent in a gradual decline to 2.4 percent of all degrees by 1977-78, a level which has continued over the following years. But the corresponding figure for the SREB states shows no change during this period, remaining within a 2.0 to 2.1 percent range ever since 1971-72. One explanation of this is that the South, due to its later development of graduate education, escaped the extreme over-expansion of Ph.D. production that occurred nationally by 1970. Thus, the regional and national pattern of degree levels may now be approaching a "stable" balance.

Table A

DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED,
1969-70 TO 1982-83

	United States			SREB States			
	Number	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees	Number	South as a Percent of U.S.	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees
1969-70	29,872	--	2.8	5,542	18.6	--	2.1
1970-71	32,113	7.5	2.8	6,057	18.9	9.3	2.2
1971-72	33,369	3.9	2.7	6,529	19.6	7.8	2.2
1972-73	34,790	4.3	2.7	6,623	19.0	1.4	2.1
1973-74	33,826	-2.8	2.6	6,810	20.1	2.8	2.0
1974-75	34,086	0.8	2.6	7,226	21.2	6.1	2.1
1975-76	34,076	0.0	2.5	7,491	22.0	3.7	2.1
1976-77	33,244	-2.4	2.5	7,475	22.5	-0.2	2.1
1977-78	32,156	-3.3	2.4	7,279	22.6	-2.6	2.0
1978-79	32,756	1.9	2.5	7,606	23.2	4.5	2.1
1979-80	32,632	-0.4	2.4	7,630	23.4	0.3	2.1
1980-81	32,982	1.2	2.4	7,469	22.6	-2.1	2.1
1981-82	32,735	-0.5	2.4	7,304	22.3	-2.2	2.0
1982-83	32,799	0.2	2.4	7,554	23.0	3.4	2.1

Master's Degrees: Master's degree production in the region paralleled the national trend by peaking simultaneously--in 1976-77--although this represented a regional doubling of degrees in a brief seven-year period while national production increased by only one-half (Table B). Similarly, the subsequent decline in master's degrees has been somewhat sharper (-12 percent) in the SREB states than in the nation (-9 percent). Since almost half of all master's degrees are in the field of education, the ups and downs of master's production are closely associated with the changing demand in elementary and secondary schools.

As in the case of doctoral degrees, the peak of master's degree production in the region occurred at about the time regional production as a part of the nation's production peaked (26.1 percent). As SREB-state production increased, the regional pattern of master's degrees as a percent of all degrees gradually converged with the national pattern, moving from a four percent difference in 1969-70 to a one half of one percent difference in the peak year. Since then the difference has leveled off at about one percent. In other words, the SREB states are becoming more like the rest of the nation in the pattern of degrees produced.

Bachelor's Degrees: Bachelor's degree (as well as first professional degree) production was still increasing, both at the regional and the national level, in 1982-83 (Table C). Entering the 1970s with a 4.5 percent lead over the United States in the proportion which bachelor's degrees represented of all degrees, by 1982-83 the proportions had converged within 1.5 percentage points.

Table B

MASTER'S DEGREES AWARDED,
1969-70 TO 1982-83

	United States			SREB States			
	Number	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees	Number	South as a Percent of U.S.	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees
1969-70	209,397	--	19.5	40,470	19.3	--	15.6
1970-71	231,486	10.5	20.2	46,177	19.9	14.1	16.7
1971-72	252,774	9.2	20.7	52,739	20.9	14.2	17.9
1972-73	264,525	4.6	20.7	58,542	22.1	11.0	18.7
1973-74	278,259	5.2	21.1	64,456	23.2	10.1	19.4
1974-75	293,651	5.5	22.3	70,706	24.1	9.7	20.7
1975-76	313,001	6.6	23.3	79,101	25.3	11.9	22.4
1976-77	318,241	1.7	23.7	81,755	25.7	3.4	23.0
1977-78	312,816	-1.7	23.3	81,712	26.1	-0.1	22.8
1978-79	302,075	-3.4	23.4	78,361	25.9	-4.2	22.0
1979-80	310,887	2.9	23.0	77,338	24.9	-1.3	21.5
1980-81	296,798	-4.5	22.0	75,662	25.5	-3.0	21.0
1981-82	296,580	-1.0	21.7	75,504	25.5	-1.0	20.9
1982-83	290,931	-2.0	21.1	72,658	25.0	-4.0	19.9

Table C

BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED,
1969-70 TO 1982-83

	United States			SREB States			
	Number	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees	Number	South as a Percent of U.S.	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees
1969-70	798,070	--	74.3	204,590	25.6	--	78.8
1970-71	846,110	6.0	73.7	214,589	25.4	4.9	77.7
1971-72	894,110	5.7	73.0	225,477	25.2	5.1	76.3
1972-73	930,272	4.0	72.7	235,593	25.3	4.5	75.2
1973-74	954,376	2.6	72.3	247,549	25.9	5.1	74.4
1974-75	931,663	-2.4	70.8	248,849	26.7	0.5	73.0
1975-76	934,443	0.3	69.5	251,548	26.9	1.1	71.2
1976-77	928,228	-0.7	69.0	250,328	27.0	-0.5	70.4
1977-78	930,201	0.2	69.3	253,036	27.2	1.1	70.6
1978-79	931,340	0.1	69.7	253,799	27.3	0.3	71.1
1979-80	940,000	1.0	69.4	256,459	27.3	1.0	71.5
1980-81	946,877	0.7	70.2	258,493	27.3	--	71.7
1981-82	964,043	1.8	70.6	259,572	26.9	0.4	71.8
1982-83	980,679	1.7	71.2	265,143	27.0	2.1	72.7

The overwhelming majority of degrees are those at the bachelor's level, and the statistical differences between the region and the nation in the production of bachelor's degrees are small; bachelor's degree production increased 23 percent in the nation and 30 percent in the region over the 13 years shown. By contrast, doctoral degree production increased 10 percent in the nation and 36 percent in the region, while master's degree production advanced 34 percent in the nation and 80 percent in the region. The great regional increase in master's degrees reflects major expansion of graduate study in the field of education.

First Professional Degrees: First professional degree production has proceeded in much the same fashion regionally and nationally (Table D). The nation shows a 109 percent increase in

Table D

FIRST PROFESSIONAL DEGREES AWARDED,
1969-70 TO 1982-83

	United States			SREB States			
	Number	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees	Number	South as a Percent of U.S.	Annual Percent Change	Percent of Total Degrees
1969-70	35,252	--	3.3	9,080	25.8	--	3.5
1970-71	38,276	8.6	3.3	9,514	24.9	4.8	3.4
1971-72	43,774	14.4	3.6	10,666	24.4	12.1	3.6
1972-73	50,435	15.2	3.9	12,718	25.2	19.2	4.1
1973-74	54,278	7.6	4.1	14,154	26.1	11.3	4.3
1974-75	56,259	3.6	4.3	14,273	25.4	0.8	4.2
1975-76	63,061	12.1	4.7	15,394	24.4	7.9	4.4
1976-77	64,780	2.7	4.8	16,001	24.7	3.9	4.5
1977-78	66,964	3.4	5.0	16,438	24.5	2.7	4.6
1978-79	69,222	3.4	5.2	17,068	24.7	3.8	4.8
1979-80	70,526	1.9	5.2	17,461	24.8	2.3	4.9
1980-81	72,369	2.6	5.4	19,053	26.3	9.1	5.3
1981-82	72,554	0.3	5.3	18,929	26.1	-0.7	5.2
1982-83	73,569	1.4	5.3	19,144	26.0	1.1	5.3

annual production over the 13 years shown, compared with a 137 percent increase in the region. First professional degrees as a percent of the total have been about the same in region and nation over these years, a proportion of all degrees which has gradually risen in both cases and now stands at 5.3 percent. The double-digit annual increases of the mid-Seventies are a thing of the past both in the region and the nation, and the region actually registered a slight decline in the number of first professional degrees in 1981-82. However, the 1982-83 levels in the region and the nation are the highest ever.

Associate Degrees: During the six-year period for which associate degree data are shown, the SREB states recorded a 10.7 percent advance, compared to 4.9 percent for the nation (Table E). This represents substantially greater expansion than occurred among degrees granted by the senior colleges, except for professional degrees, which increased by 20 percent during this period. As with professional degrees, 1982-83 is the peak year of associate degrees thus far.

Table E

ASSOCIATE DEGREES AWARDED,
1976-77 TO 1982-83

	United States		SREB States	
	Number	Percent Change	Number	Percent Change
1976-77	440,180	--	114,112	--
1977-78	449,018	2.0	119,190	4.5
1978-79	438,793	-2.3	120,011	0.7
1979-80	435,127	-0.8	120,724	0.6
1980-81	449,808	3.4	120,472	-0.2
1981-82	454,749	1.1	125,917	4.5
1982-83	461,888	1.6	133,212	5.8

Comparison of the States

Doctoral degree production was at a stable level in the region and nation by 1982-83 when compared with volumes produced four years previously (Table F). Some of the deviations from this pattern may largely be explained either as major dampening of production in states whose previous advances were substantial--as in Florida--or major gains in states that were still "catching up"--Arkansas and Mississippi. Another important consideration is variation in the proportion of Ed.D.s included within the doctoral category (32 percent for the region as a whole).

Master's degree production, which fell four percent in the nation and seven percent in the region over four years, dropped in all but three SREB states which registered small gains. Again, it is the decline in public school enrollment that accounts for the general downward trend, with declines as high as -27.1 percent in degree production in one state.

Bachelor's degree production fell in only three states over the four-year period--Alabama, Oklahoma, and Tennessee--while Georgia was the only state showing a double-digit increase.

First professional degree production advanced as high as 34 percent in Georgia and 20 percent in Texas, and dropped in Arkansas, Kentucky, and Mississippi. Declines in law and theology contributed to a total decline of 16 percent in Mississippi.

Table F

DEGREES AWARDED BY STATE, 1982-83; PERCENT CHANGE 1978-79 TO 1982-83

	Associate		Bachelor's		Master's		Doctoral		First Professional	
	Total 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Total 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Total 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Total 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Total 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83
United States	461,888	5.3	980,679	5.3	290,931	-3.7	32,799	0.1	73,569	6.3
SREB States*	119,890	N.A.	265,143	4.5	72,658	-7.3	8,430	-0.7	19,144	12.2
SREB States as % of U.S.	26.9		27.0		25.0		23.0		26.0	
Alabama	4,017[a]	N.A.	16,217	-0.8	4,819	-20.0	281	5.2	902	3.7
Arkansas	2,360	31.4	7,282	8.6	1,771	5.4	128	37.6	363	-4.2
Florida	35,517	11.9	31,184	9.3	8,326	-11.8	1,038	-31.6	1,762	3.5
Georgia	6,496	4.3	17,920	11.1	6,208	-13.0	601	13.4	1,812	33.7
Kentucky	5,338	13.9	11,591	3.3	3,703	-26.1	271	3.8	1,283	-5.1
Louisiana	2,258	14.9	15,533	5.2	4,006	-1.2	280	-13.0	1,559	13.2
Maryland	7,020	-15.1	17,207	4.4	5,066	-1.3	603	2.7	1,026	11.4
Mississippi	4,764	2.1	9,020	1.5	2,174	-27.1	274	26.9	387	-16.1
North Carolina	10,960	-5.4	24,448	3.4	5,465	-1.3	725	-1.9	1,582	14.3
South Carolina	5,880	3.0	12,289	7.7	3,165	-8.6	207	-8.8	658	13.3
Tennessee	6,816	11.9	16,977	-3.5	4,230	-3.8	585	3.5	1,566	11.1
Texas	19,231	-14.7	54,895	2.3	16,250	0.1	1,676	4.0	4,331	20.4
Virginia	6,699[a]	N.A.	23,090	8.7	5,463	5.5	627	13.0	1,517	12.7
West Virginia	2,534	19.0	7,490	1.5	2,012	-7.5	128	11.3	396	18.2
Oklahoma	4,184	10.2	12,404	-3.5	3,462	-5.6	405	-3.8	992	15.8

*Does not include data for Oklahoma, which became SREB member in 1985.

[a]Public institutions only; based on SREB-State Data Exchange.

Associate degree production was mixed, rising in most states but falling in some states that are historically identified with the support of substantial community college establishments--Maryland, North Carolina, and Texas.

Degrees Awarded by Field

Fields in which increases are reported at all levels--bachelor's, master's and doctoral--over a four-year period are computer and information sciences, communications, engineering, business and management, and the health professions (Tables G, H, and I). While computer and information sciences have increased most heavily in percentage among these top five, the field accounts for only a small percent of the total; business and management accounts for over half of the degrees awarded in these fields of major growth.

Fields in which declines are registered at all levels are library and archival sciences, multi/interdisciplinary studies, public affairs, education, foreign languages, and social sciences. While these are listed in the order of heaviest decline in percentage terms, it should be noted that education accounts for half of this group. Education plus the social sciences make up 80 percent of the group.

Other fields fall into three categories, 1) fields declining at the baccalaureate level but showing gains at the graduate level--agriculture, architecture, area and ethnic studies, home economics, life sciences, theology, psychology and the visual and performing arts, 2) fields gaining at the baccalaureate levels and declining at the graduate level--mathematics and physical sciences, and 3) fields for which changes are not shown in Tables G, H, and I because of major reclassifications brought about by introduction of the new CIP taxonomy--letters, liberal/general studies, parks and recreation, philosophy, and religion.

Table G

BACHELOR'S DEGREES AWARDED, BY HEGIS FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS, 1978-79, AND BY CIP FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS, 1982-83; PERCENT CHANGE, 1978-79 TO 1982-83; PERCENT FEMALES, 1978-79 AND 1982-83, SREB STATES

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Titles (1982-83)	HEGIS Titles (1978-79)	Number of Degrees 1978-79	Number of Degrees 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Percent Females 1978-79	Percent Females 1982-83
Agribusiness and Agri. Production			1,549			
Agricultural Sciences			2,982			
Renewable Natural Resources			898			
	Agriculture	6,549	5,429	-17.1	26.9	30.2
Architecture & Environ. Design	Architecture	2,901	2,899	-0.1	22.9	35.6
Area & Ethnic Studies	Area Studies	457	452	-1.1	63.9	66.6
Business & Management			65,942			
Business & Office			1,654			
Marketing & Distribution			1,074			
	Business & Management	52,332	68,670	31.2	34.3	42.9
Communications			10,306			
Communications Technologies			321			
	Communications	7,225	10,627	47.0	55.7	60.4
Computer & Information Sciences	Comp. & Info. Sc.	2,373	6,481	173.0	35.0	40.1
Education	Education	44,858	34,135	-23.9	75.6	77.1
Engineering			18,618			
Eng. & Engineering-Related Tech.			4,892			
	Engineering	16,223	23,510	44.9	9.2	12.9
Foreign Languages	For. Languages	2,311	1,893	-18.1	75.3	75.0
Allied Health			3,789			
Health Sciences			13,104			
	Health Professions	16,386	16,893	3.1	82.2	83.2
Home Economics			4,284			
Vocational Home Economics			141			
	Home Economics	5,189	4,425	-14.7	97.3	99.0
Law	Law	111	366	230.0	48.7	58.2
Letters[a]	Letters	17,091	7,321	[a]	61.1	67.9
Liberal/General Studies[b]			3,303	[b]		49.6
Library & Archival Sciences	Library Science	237	114	-51.9	96.1	91.2
Life Sciences	Biological Sciences	12,384	9,810	-17.4	42.4	45.8
Mathematics	Mathematics	3,137	3,323	5.9	47.8	48.3
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Stud.	6,593	4,345	-34.1	45.4	45.9
Parks & Recreation[c]			1,439	[c]		57.5
Philosophy & Religion[a]			1,714	[a]		27.9
Theology	Theology	2,440	2,277	-6.7	22.6	22.7

Table G (Continued)

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Titles (1982-83)	HEGIS Titles (1978-79)	Number of Degrees 1978-79	Number of Degrees 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Percent Females 1978-79	Percent Females 1982-83
Physical Sciences			6,610			
Science Technologies			113			
	Physical Sciences	6,631	6,723	1.4	22.4	27.7
Psychology	Psychology	10,163	9,644	-5.1	63.6	60.0
Protective Services			4,055			
Public Affairs			3,673			
	Public Affairs	10,613	7,728	-27.2	55.0	59.9
Social Sciences	Social Sciences	26,219	22,425	-14.5	43.4	44.2
Construction Trades[d]			49	[d]		6.1
Mechanics & Repairers[d]			8	[d]		0
Precision Production[d]			93	[d]		67.7
Transportation & Material Moving[d]			934	[d]		10.1
Visual & Performing Arts	Fine & Applied Arts	8,545	7,901	-7.5	64.6	63.4
TOTAL		253,622	265,143	4.5	50.2	51.4

FOOTNOTES:

[a] "Philosophy and Religion," classified under "Letters" according to the HEGIS taxonomy, is a separate category under CIP.

[b] "Liberal/General Studies" were classified under "Interdisciplinary Studies" according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

[c] "Parks and Recreation" was classified under "Public Affairs" according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

[d] "Construction Trades," "Mechanics and Repairers," "Precision Production" and "Transportation and Material Moving" were classified only below the baccalaureate according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

Table H

MASTER'S DEGREES AWARDED, BY HEGIS FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS, 1978-79, AND BY CIP FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS, 1982-83; PERCENT CHANGE, 1978-79 TO 1982-83; PERCENT FEMALES, 1978-79 AND 1982-83, SREB STATES

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Titles (1982-83)	HEGIS Titles (1978-79)	Number of Degrees 1978-79	Number of Degrees 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Percent Females 1978-79	Percent Females 1982-83
Agribusiness and Agri. Production			285			
Agricultural Sciences			832			
Renewable Natural Resources			256			
	Agriculture	1,239	1,373	10.8	21.1	25.6
Architecture & Environ. Design	Architecture	718	767	6.8	24.2	32.2
Area & Ethnic Studies	Area Studies	104	83	-20.2	56.9	53.0
Business & Management			14,228			
Business & Office			9			
	Business Management	10,222	14,237	39.3	22.4	28.8
Communications			674			
Communications Technologies			2			
	Communications	478	676	41.4	52.6	55.3
Computer & Information Sciences	Comp. & Info. Sc.	567	1,066	88.0	18.8	27.3
Education	Education	37,075	27,313	-26.4	73.4	76.2
Engineering			3,721			
Eng. & Engineering-Related Tech.			182			
	Engineering	3,128	3,903	24.8	6.7	8.9
Foreign Languages	For. Languages	396	270	-31.8	76.0	71.5
Allied Health			643			
Health Sciences			3,506			
	Health Professions	3,759	4,149	10.4	73.7	75.1
Home Economics			659			
Vocational Home Economics			38			
	Home Economics	820	697	-15.0	91.7	93.1
Law	Law	247	278	12.6	12.4	19.8
Letters[a]	Letters	2,401	1,248	[a]	67.4	65.9
Liberal/General Studies[b]			216	[b]		64.3
Library & Archival Sciences	Library Sciences	1,615	1,148	-28.9	84.4	86.4
Life Sciences	Biological Sciences	1,775	1,505	-15.2	35.6	42.9
Mathematics	Mathematics	752	709	-5.7	43.4	39.5
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Stud.	904	745	-17.6	49.1	56.2
Parks and Recreation[c]			155	[c]		64.5
Philosophy & Religion[a]			156	[a]		
Theology	Theology	1,195	1,608	34.6	25.3	26.5

Table H (Continued)

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Titles (1982-83)	HEGIS Titles (1978-79)	Number of Degrees 1978-79	Number of Degrees 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Percent Females 1978-79	Percent Females 1982-83
Physical Sciences			1,194			
Science Technologies			8			
	Physical Sciences	1,152	1,202	4.3	20.5	22.6
Psychology	Psychology	1,791	1,911	6.7	54.7	59.9
Protective Services			321			
Public Affairs			3,103			
	Public Affairs	4,419	3,424	-22.5	52.5	61.0
Social Sciences	Social Sciences	2,736	2,280	-16.7	38.6	38.2
Transportation & Material Moving[d]			58	[d]		1.7
Visual & Performing Arts	Fine & Applied Arts	1,616	1,481	-8.4	54.1	54.8
TOTAL		78,384	72,658	-7.3	54.8	54.6

FOOTNOTES:

[a] "Philosophy and Religion," classified under "Letters" according to the HEGIS taxonomy, is a separate category under CIP.

[b] "Liberal/General Studies" were classified under "Interdisciplinary Studies" according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

[c] "Parks and Recreation" was classified under "Public Affairs" according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

[d] "Transportation and Material Moving" was classified only below the baccalaureate according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

Table I

DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED, BY HEGIS FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS, 1978-79, AND BY CIP FIELD CLASSIFICATIONS, 1982-83; PERCENT CHANGE, 1978-79 TO 1982-83; PERCENT FEMALES, 1978-79 AND 1982-83, SREB STATES

Classification of Instrtuctional Programs (CIP) Titles (1982-83)	HEGIS Titles (1978-79)	Number of Degrees		Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Percent Females	
		1978-79	1982-83		1978-79	1982-83
Agribusiness & Agri. Production			41			
Agricultural Sciences			233			
Renewable Natural Resources			44			
	Agriculture	250	318	29.2	10.4	11.3
Architecture & Environ. Design	Architecture	9	11	22.2	14.3	0
Area & Ethnic Studies	Area Studies	5	11	120.0	44.4	36.4
Business & Management	Business & Management	249	270	8.4	12.9	18.5
Communications	Communications	22	31	40.9	36.0	45.2
Computer & Information Sciences	Comp. & Info. Sc.	41	47	14.6	10.7	19.1
Education	Education	2,421	2,231	-7.8	45.0	53.0
Engineering			500			
Eng. & Engineering-Related Tech.			2			
	Engineering	445	502	12.8	3.3	3.1
Foreign Languages	For. Languages	125	61	-51.2	59.4	70.5
Allied Health			2			
Health Sciences			383			
	Health Professions	193	385	99.5	42.3	39.0
Home Economics			97			
Vocational Home Economics			8			
	Home Economics	83	105	26.5	83.3	66.7
Law	Law	2	35	750.0	0	28.6
Letters[a]	Letters	352	205	-41.8	45.5	58.5
Liberal/General Studies[b]			19	[b]		57.9
Library & Archival Sciences	Library Sciences	9	4	-55.6	76.9	50.0
Life Sciences	Biological Sciences	795	824	3.6	25.0	34.0
Mathematics	Mathematics	136	134	-1.5	19.9	17.9
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Stud.	58	49	-11.5	34.7	34.7
Parks & Recreation[c]			12	[c]		25.0
Philosophy & Religion [a]			88	[a]		21.6
Theology	Theology	508	338	-33.5	5.0	5.9

Table I (Continued)

Classification of Instrtuctional Programs (CIP) Titles (1982-83)	HEGIS Titles (1978-79)	Number of Degrees 1978-79	Number of Degrees 1982-83	Percent Change 1978-79 to 1982-83	Percent Females 1978-79	Percent Females 1982-83
Physical Sciences	Physical Sciences	603	594	-3.2	11.9	13.0
Psychology	Psychology	612	645	5.4	36.0	44.3
Protective Services			13			
Public Affairs			61			
	Public Affairs	88	74	-15.9	22.0	24.3
Social Sciences	Social Sciences	537	469	-12.7	26.4	29.4
Visual & Performing Arts	Fine & Applied Arts	85	93	9.4	36.5	45.2
TOTAL		7,604	7,554	-0.7	30.2	35.0

FOOTNOTES;

[a] "Philosophy and Religion," classified under "Letters" according to the HEGIS taxonomy, is a separate category under CIP.

[b] "Liberal/General Studies" were classified under "Interdisciplinary Studies" according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

[c] "Parks and Recreation" was classified under "Public Affairs" according to the HEGIS taxonomy.

At the 1st professional level, the 13 percent increase over the four-year period masks wide variation by fields, all of which are still increasing, although in the case of dentistry the gain was less than one percent (Table J).

Table J

FIRST PROFESSIONAL DEGREES AWARDED FOR SELECTED FIELDS, 1978-79 AND 1982-83; PERCENT CHANGE, 1978-79 TO 1982-83; PERCENT FEMALES, 1978-79 AND 1982-83, SREB STATES

			Percent Change 1978-79 to	Percent Females	
	1978-79	1982-83	1982-83	1978-79	1982-83
Dentistry	1,503	1,596	.7	12.1	16.3
Medicine	4,186	4,881	12.0	19.6	23.6
Optometry	257	285	10.9	13.2	19.3
Osteopathic Medicine	111	229	20.7	13.7	20.1
Pharmacy	84	127	51.2	27.1	48.0
Veterinary Medicine	471	635	19.7	29.5	41.7
Chiropractic	236	657	178.0	16.9	19.8
Law, General	8,400	9,521	7.1	26.5	33.3
Theological	1,677	2,205	30.0	10.0	11.5
TOTAL	16,925	20,136	13.1	21.2	26.7

The 51 percent increase in pharmacy reflects the widespread transition to the doctoral level as the first professional degree in that field. The 178 percent increase in chiropractic degrees reflects major growth of training programs in all three SREB states where chiropractic schools are located--Georgia, South Carolina, and Texas.

Degrees Awarded by Sex

Over the three-year period displayed in Tables G, H, I, and J, the proportion of degrees awarded to women increased in an overwhelming number of fields. However, the growth in proportion of degrees earned by women has slowed down at all degree levels since the 1970s. The annual increase in degrees for women during the period from 1978-79 to 1982-83 was three-tenths of one percent at the bachelor's level, down from the eight-tenths of one percent prevailing from 1974-75 to 1979-80. Similarly, the annual rate of increase dropped at the doctoral level, from 1.8 percent to 1.2 percent, from 2.3 percent to 1.4 percent at the first professional degree level, and went from a 1 percent increase to a slight decrease at the master's level.

Fields in which lower proportions of women received degrees at the bachelor's level were foreign languages, library sciences, psychology, and the visual and performing arts--fields traditionally associated with women, except for psychology. Fields of decline for women at the master's level were area and ethnic studies, foreign languages, letters, mathematics, and the social sciences. The reason for the overall drop for women at the master's level is the drop in total number of education degrees (which are 76 percent female) from 47 percent of the total in 1978-79 to 38 percent of the total in 1982-83. At the doctoral level, women earned a smaller share of degrees in architecture, area and ethnic studies, engineering, health professions, home economics, library science, and mathematics. Women had increases for all first professional degrees, most notably in pharmacy, where 48 percent of degrees were awarded to women in 1982-83.